Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 089756

LIMDIS FOR DEPUTY ASST SECRETARY LESTER E. EDMOND

FOLLOWING REPEAT MANILA 5015 ACTION SECSTATE 12 APR

QUOTE

CONFIDENTIAL MANILA 5015

LIMDIS

USADB

PASS TREASURY FOR BUSHNELL/ZINMAN

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: EAID, EFIN, VS

SUBJECT: ADB ANNUAL MEETING: VIETNAM ISSUE

REF: MANILA 4929

1. ON APRIL 9 KOREAN DIRECTOR SAID THAT ADB SECRETARY RECEIVED TELEGRAM FROM SOUTH VIETNAM GOVERNOR TO ADB REQUESTING ASSISTANCE IN SECURING APPOINTMENTS WITH (A) ADB STAFF TO REACTIVATE CURRENT PROJECTS AND (B) IBRD DELEGATION AT ADB ANNUAL MEETING FOR HALF AN HOUR TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON FUTURE ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. CONFIDENTIAL

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TELEGRAM ALSO INDICATED THAT THESE TWO APPOINTMENTS

SHOULD NOT CONFLICT WITH PREVIOUSLY REQUESTED APPOINTMENT WITH ADB PRESIDENT.

- 2. KOREAN DIRECTOR SAID THAT HE REQUESTED AND ADB SECRETARY AGREED TO CHOOSE WORDS CAREFULLY IN ANSWERING TELEGRAMS TO AVOID POSSIBLE MISUNDERSTANDING ON PART OF VIETNAMESE IN VIEW OF NEW AGGRESSIVE TONE OF LAST TWO VIETNAMESE TELEGRAMS. ADB SECRETARY CONFIMRED HE WOULD TRY TO OBTAIN ADVANCE COPY OF VIETNAMESE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH AND AGREED TO SCHEDULE VIETNAMESE GOVERNOR SPEECH LAST TO AVOID POSSIBILITY OF SUBSEQUENT COMMENTS BY OTHER GOVERNORS.
- 3. FYI. CHANGE IN TONE, ATTITUDE, SUBSTANCE AND LEVEL OF COMPETENCE OF LAST TWO VIETNAMESE TELEGRAMS GIVES IMPRESSION OF SUDDEN VIETNAMESE DECISION TO BEGIN RESUMPTION OF ACTIVE RELATIONS WITH ADB AT ANNUAL MEETING.
 STULL UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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